Institute, etc. The Management of the Institute, which is an autonomous body has had several rounds of meeting with the Nurses Union to find amicable solution.

Admission to P.G. Courses in A.I.I.M.S.

286. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N.E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to states:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn into the confusion created in the admission of students to the post-graduate courses in All India Institute of Medical Sciences due to absence of a proper reservation policy and unclear directives given by the Minister in this regard; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the confusion created and how the problem is being solved?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Directions to the Institute are very clear that for admission in postgraduate courses, the principle of merit assessed by the Institute on the basis of an examination with the provision for statutory reservation for SC and ST students is to be maintained. The question of any confusion does not arise.

Ayurvedic Research Centre at Cheruthuruthy in Kerala

287. SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the pathetic condition of the Central Ayurvedic Research Centre at Cheruthuruthy in Kerala;

(b) if so, what is the amount of funds being allotted to this Centre during the last three years and the actual amount disbursed; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken for the revival of this Centre?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The Indian Institute of Panchakarma at Cheruthuruthy has been functioning well. The expenditure incurred by this Institute in the last three years are as indicated below:

1990-91	27.82 lacs.
1991-92	37.88 lacs
1992-93	38.80 lacs.

A National Workshop on Panchakarma Therapy is beign currently organised at the Institute.

Export of Ayurvedic Medicines

288. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WLFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total value of the Ayurvedic products which are exported from our country;

(b) what are the names of the countries to which the major exports of Ayurvedic medicines go;

(c) whether Government have any plan to encourage export of Ayurvedic Medicines; and

(d) what are the major Ayurvedic medicines which are exported?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The total value of Ayurvedic drugs/products exported from our country is of the order of Rs. 100 crores annually.

(b) Ayurvedic medicines are mainly exported to Japan, Italy, France, Russia, UAE, Malaysia, Singapore, Canada, Holland, Brazil, Srilanka, Australia and U.K.

(c) and (d) The export of Ayurvedic medicines is allowed on a decontrolled

basis. Export items include ointments, Churnas, Chyavanaprash, psyllium husk, inhalers etc.

Banning Of Certain Drugs

289. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical community has asked Government to ban some of the drugs;

(b) if so, what are the drugs which are being considered to be banned;

(c) what are the reasons for banning such drugs;

(d) by when the ban will be effective; and

(e) what are the reasons for the inordinate delay in banning dangerous drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Requests to ban certain drugs are made from time to time by different organisations including medical associations.

(b) to (e) The process of banning drugs which are considered to be irrational or harmful is a continuous one. Various formalations are at different stages of examination by the prescribed authorities. Government will take a view once the experts recommendations are received.

Nirodh Distribution Scheme

290. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the target number for Nirodh under free distribution scheme for 1993-94;

(b) what had been the total expenditure on this;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce free distribution of Nirodh in a phased manner;

(d) if so, whether Government have assessed its impact on AIDS control and population control; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) 960.84 million pieces.

(b) Anticipated expenditure in 1993-94 is Rs. 60 crores.

(c) to (e) There is a proposal to promote social marketing of condoms and increase sales thereunder. The question of reducing free distribution of NIRODH does not arise without social marketing effectively replacing it.

Commercial exploitation of Brahmi Herb

291. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report in Indian Express dated 15.12.93 that Brahmi Herb will hit the market by 1995 to improve the memory and learning ability of human beings if it is commercially exploited for manufacture of the wonder drug;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be exploited commercially for the benefit of human beings in the country;

(c) how many trials had been conducted on this drug;

(d) whether it is a fact that according to Dr. Raj Kumar of Velvetti International Pharma Products Ltd., this will soon be exploited commercially either at Pondicherry or at Cuddalore; and

(e) whether he has suggested that Government of India should take up cultivation of this herb on a mass-scale in several parts of the country, if so, the